



61 >> RED IV

...I
ALWAYS
LONGED
FOR
THESE.



ALL PICTURED
IN THESE
STORYBOOKS,
AS IF THEY
WERE THE MOST
OBVIOUS THING.

THIS
PERFECTLY
NORMAL
THING...

...I
ALWAYS
LONGED
FOR THAT.

FOR
EXAMPLE,
THIS
HAPPY-
NESS.

FOR
EXAMPLE,
THESE
FRIENDS.

FOR
EXAMPLE,
THESE
"SMILES."

BUT...

...WOULD
NEVER
HAVE A
FUTURE
LIKE THAT
IN STORE
FOR ME.

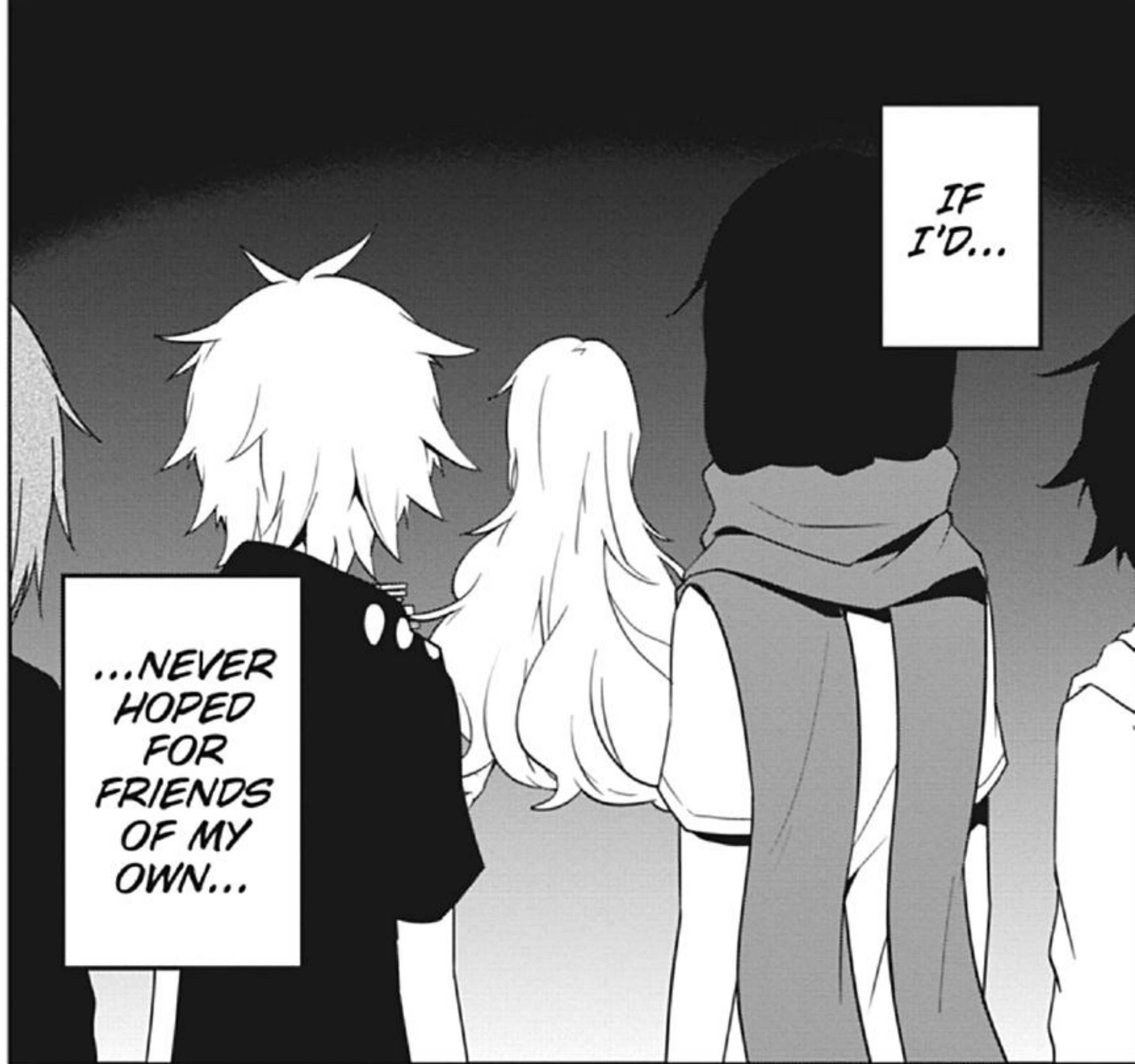
I WAS
SURE
THE
WORLD
...

...ALL
THOSE
"NORMAL"
THINGS...

...WERE
THE
HARDEST.



BUT I STILL HELD OUT HOPE.



IF
I'D...

...NEVER
HOPED
FOR
FRIENDS
OF MY
OWN...



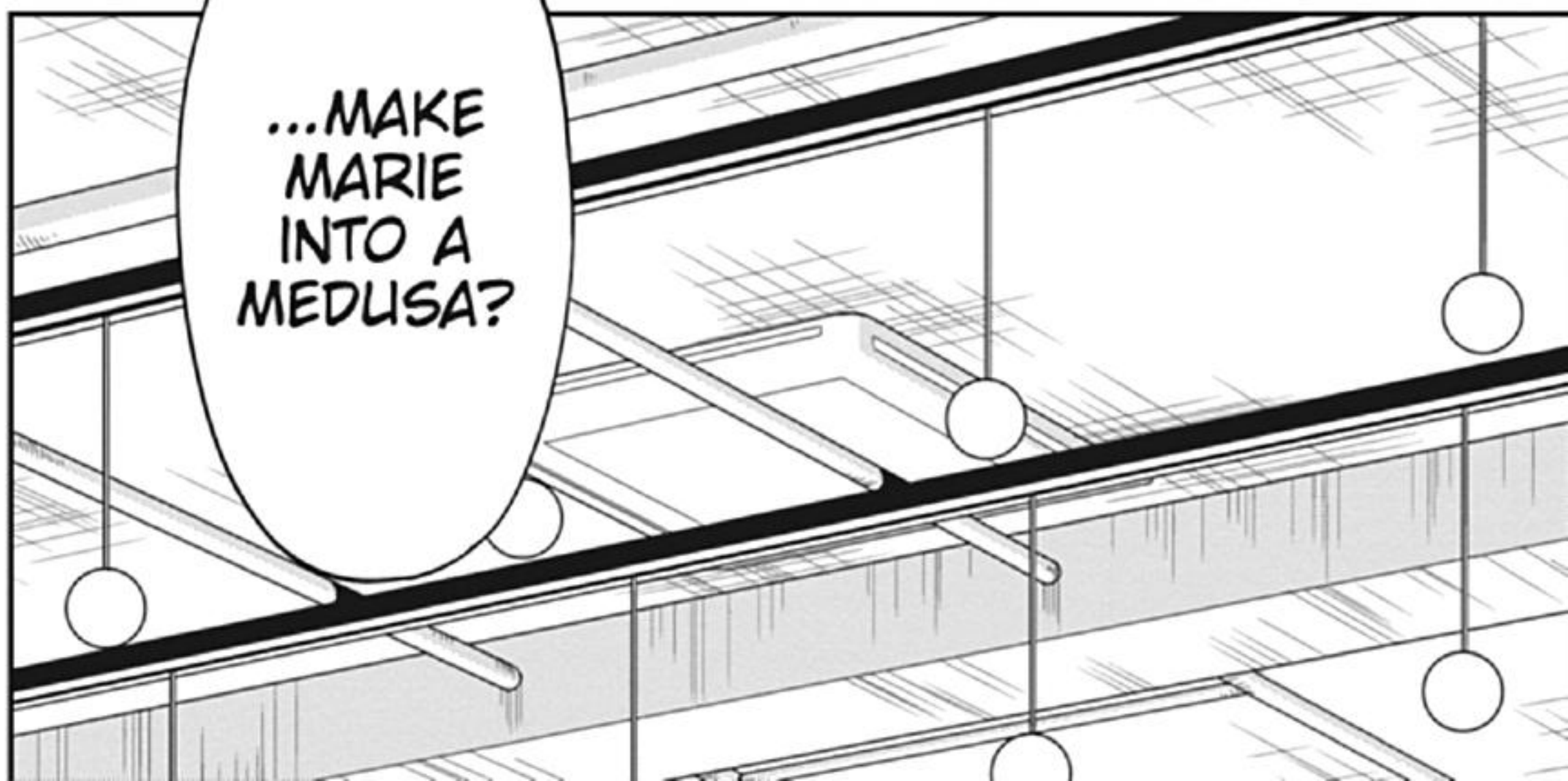


...I'M SURE EVERYONE COULD'VE STAYED HAPPY.





...MAKE
MARIE
INTO A
MEDUSA?











...IS
HERS.



BUT
THAT'S...

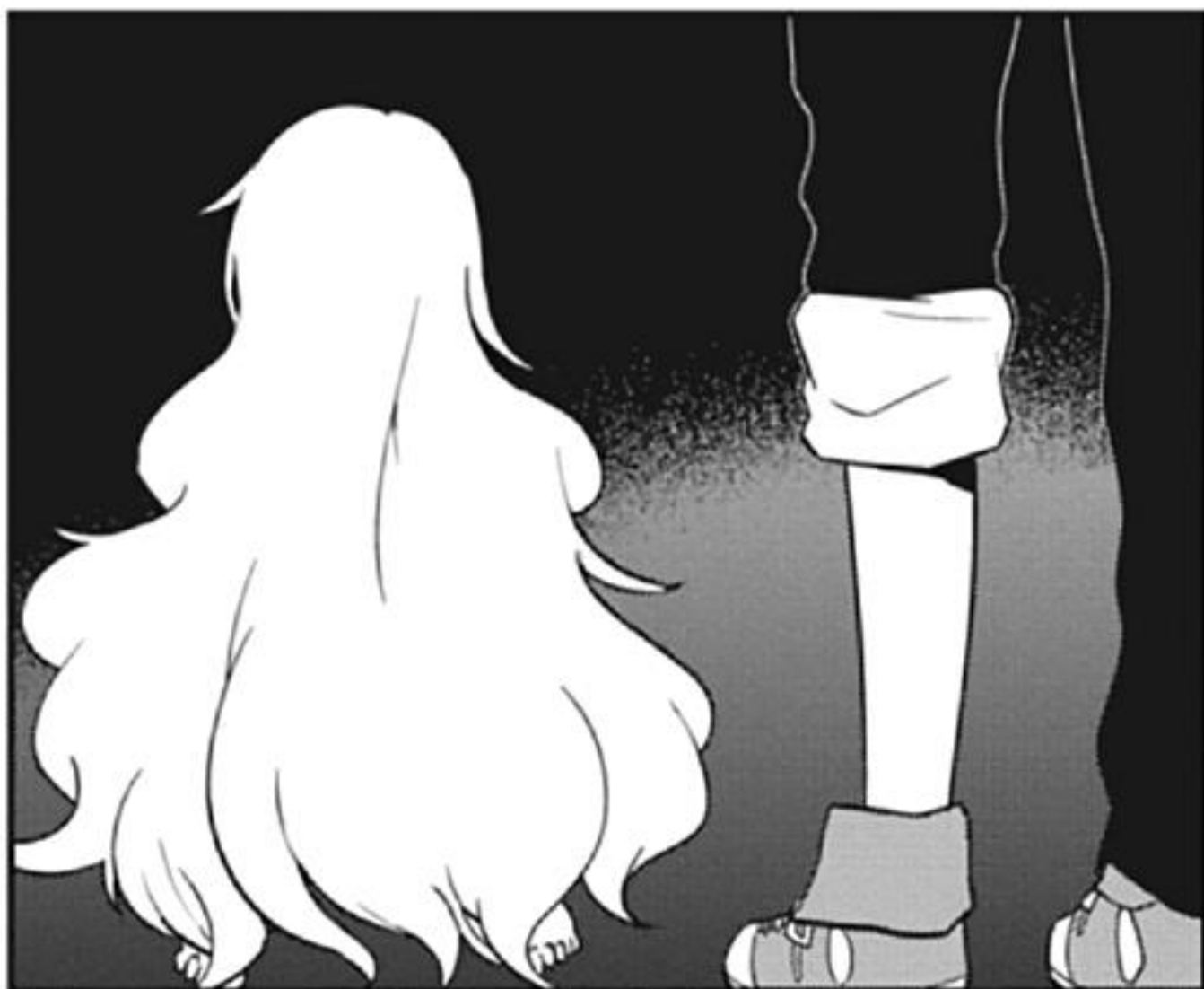
BESIDES,
WE'RE NOT
ASKING
YOU.

THIS
DECISION
...





...YOU'RE
ANGRY
AT ME,
AREN'T
YOU?



...MAYBE
NONE OF THESE
TERRIBLE THINGS
WOULD HAVE
HAPPENED TO
YOU.

IF I'D
NEVER COME
INTO YOUR
LIFE...



YES...

...YOU TOO.



BECAUSE I WANTED MORE...

...EVERY-THING GOT MORE AND MORE MESSED UP.

IT'S FINE. YOU CAN BE MAD AT ME.



AND YET I TRIED TO BE YOUR FRIEND.

AND YET...

I'M A MONSTER. I SHOULD NEVER BE ALLOWED OUTSIDE.

I'M NOT LIKE ANY OF YOU.



BUT...

...YOU
KNOW...



ALL I
WANTED
WAS TO BE
NORMAL...

I
CAN'T
STAND
IT...

I JUST
CAN'T
STAND
IT...!

I DON'T
WANT TO
THINK IT
WAS A
MISTAKE
...!

...I...





**WE
HAVEN'T
BECOME
FRIENDS
AT ALL
YET.**

**I'VE
MET
ALL OF
YOU...**

**...BUT WE
HAVEN'T
TALKED
NEARLY
ENOUGH.**



**...YOU'RE
RIGHT.**



YEAH.

**I THINK
THE EXACT
SAME
THING.**





**THAT'S
WHY...**

**...WE
HAVE
TO STEP
UP...**

**...AND
RETAKE
OUR
FUTURES.**



...
HOW
DO YOU
FEEL
...

... "PRIN-
CESS"?

...
RIGHT.

I THINK
I CAN DO
MY BEST.



